Resolution On Lack of Adequate Faculty Consultation On Executive Orders 1100 (Revised) and EO 1110

WHEREAS: The principle of shared governance legislated in the Higher Education Employer-Employee Relations Act (HEERA) 3561 (b) as follows: “The Legislature recognizes that joint decisionmaking [sic] and consultation between administration and faculty or academic employees is the long-accepted manner of governing institutions of higher learning and is essential to the performance of the educational missions of these institutions….”; and

WHEREAS: Fresno State Academic Policy Manual (APM) 113 Policy on Academic Organization and Governance, Article V, notes “As stated in the Trustee Statement on Collegiality appended to this document, faculty shall be consulted on academic matters. In order to facilitate this consultation, academic governance is established through the Academic Assembly and its entities.”; and

WHEREAS: Fresno State APM 114 Policy On Faculty Consultation And Voting states “‘Consultation’ is a deliberative process by which faculty and administrators provide advice and information to each other and which does not commit the President or designees to a specific action. Meaningful consultation from initial formulation through final determination of policy and procedures consists of thoughtful deliberation, presentation of facts, and the exchange of opinions. Ideally, consultation should lead to consensus or agreement on the recommendation to be forwarded.”; and

WHEREAS: The Constitution for the Academic Assembly of Fresno State, Article 1, Section 6, states clearly “The faculty has the primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research and creative/scholarly activity, faculty status, and those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process.”; and

WHEREAS: The Academic Senate of the California State University’s (ASCSU) recent AS 3304-17 objected to “the severely time-constrained and flawed shared governance process and consultation surrounding Executive Order 1100 (revised) and Executive Order (EO) 1110 and insist that the practice of joint decision-making mandated in HEERA be respected and adhered to.”; and

WHEREAS: ASCSU’s AS 3304-17 rationale notes EO1100 and EO1110 “require vast curricular changes, which bring into question the need for the hasty release of these Executive Orders during the summer break, a time when only a handful of ASCSU faculty representatives were available.” The Academic Senate of California State University, Fresno notes summer consultation can hardly constitute the deliberate and diligent faculty consultation needed for such complex curricular changes; and

WHEREAS: the Academic Senate of California State University, Fresno is very concerned about EO 1100’s potential influence on both the system’s and campus’s commitment to the goals of multicultural and international education, and is especially concerned about the detrimental impact this order will have for our campus due to Fresno State’s unique Multicultural International GE concentration; and

WHEREAS: these executive orders’ draconian time-lines place significant and undue burdens on faculty and staff, showing little understanding of the practices, policies and procedures impacted by General Education, or the implications these orders have well beyond the GE program; and
WHEREAS: the impact on dual counting of GE represents significant encroachment into department/program control over major curriculum standards, requiring significant revision and work for many with majors who currently do not allow such dual counting; and

WHEREAS: these orders have threatened the quality of education students receive at the CSU campuses delivered through the specialization of majors enhanced by a robust and well-rounded General Education curriculum that has been developed through thoughtful debate by academic experts and that offers depth and richness at both the lower and upper division levels. Be it therefore,

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fresno, denounces the lack of adequate consultation in development of EO 1100 and EO 1110 along with the wholly inadequate timeline for implementation of these orders; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fresno, support ASCSU’s resolution AS3304-17; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fresno, also calls on the Chancellor to not only delay implementation but to rescind these orders and begin again, this time engaging in meaningful and deliberate shared governance and consultation with appropriate faculty representative bodies, building a data-rich and theoretically sound curricular conversation, including the merits of any proposed changes; and be it further

RESOLVED: the Academic Senate of California State University, Fresno, calls on the Chancellor’s office and deliberative bodies, to include study on a campus-by-campus basis throughout the system to discover all majors that will be impacted by the changes to dual counting, releasing this data to the statewide and local CSU senates; and be it further

RESOLVED: that in addition to strongly supporting the statement on Ethnic Studies as expressed in ASCSU AS-3304, the Academic Senate of California State University, Fresno, calls on the Chancellor’s office, along with all relevant deliberative bodies, to carefully study the potentially unique impact of any proposed changes in GE for all programs currently delivering multicultural and international designated GE curriculum, including, though not limited to, Women’s Studies, to ensure changes do not negatively impact this vital GE commitment, releasing this data to the statewide and local CSU senates; and be it further

RESOLVED: the Academic Senate of California State University, Fresno, reiterate its commitment to meaningful, well-rounded, culturally rich, quality General Education curriculum that encourages the breadth and depth necessary to be a thoughtful, engaged, humane, and contributing member of a global society.

RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to:

- Governor of California
- California State University, Chancellor
- CSU, Board of Trustees
- CSU Fresno President
- CSU Fresno Provost
- CSU Fresno Deans
- CSU Fresno Department Chairs
- Executive Leadership of the of the Academic Senate of the ASCSU
- All other CSU Campus Senate Chairs
• California Faculty Association (CFA), Statewide President
• CFA Fresno Chapter President
• California State Student Association (CSSA)
• President of CSU, Fresno, chapter of Associated Students Inc. (ASI)

Approved on October 9, 2017